

Master Agreement

THIS MASTER COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT (this "**Master Agreement**") is entered into by and between The Cooperative Council of Governments, Inc., the Winning Supplier, And Equalis. Throughout this Master Agreement, CCOG, Winning Supplier, and Equalis are referred to interchangeably as in the singular "**Party**" or in the plural "**Parties**."

1. RECITALS

A. CCOG is a Council of Governments formed under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code and serves as a lead agency (a "**Lead Public Agency**") for Equalis Group ("**Equalis Group**"), a national cooperative purchasing organization, by publicly procuring Master Agreements for products and services to be made available to current and prospective Equalis Group members ("**Equalis Group Member**" or "**Member**").

B. Equalis is the third-party procurement administrator for and duly authorized agent of CCOG, and in that role manages the procurement, contract management, marketing, sales, reporting, and financial activities of, for, and on behalf of CCOG at the direction and with the authorization of the CCOG Board of Directors.

C. To the extent that the laws of a state, region, territory, and/or country permit, any public sector entity may join Equalis Group as a Member. The term "**Public Sector Entities**" includes, but is not limited to, political subdivisions, municipal corporations, counties, townships, villages, school districts, special districts, public institutions of higher education or training, units of government, state/regional/territorial agencies, state/regional/territorial governments, federal/national agencies, federal/national governments, and other entities receiving financial support from tax monies and/or public funds.

D. Any organization that is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code, and any other entity if permitted under the IRS Code and other applicable law, including for-profit companies, may also join Equalis Group as a Member.

E. Equalis Group makes its Master Agreements available through groups and associations ("**Association Partners**") that contract with Equalis for the purpose of providing additional benefits to the members of such Association Partners.

F. Members, Association Partners, and Association Partners' members are referred to throughout this Master Agreement as Equalis Group participants ("**Equalis Group Participants**").

G. CCOG issued this request for proposal ("**RFP**") on behalf of Equalis Group Participants for and awarded a contract to Winning Supplier as a lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The products and services made available in this contract are defined by the contents of the Winning Supplier's Cost Proposal submission ("**Products & Services**").

H. CCOG and Equalis agree to make the Products & Services from Winning Supplier available to Equalis Group Participants and Winning Supplier agrees to provide the same to Equalis Group Participants who purchase Products & Services ("**Program Participants**") subject to the terms of this Master Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises contained herein, the Parties agree to the following terms and conditions:

2. TERMS & CONDITIONS

- 2.1. **Personnel & Equipment.** The Parties agree that the number and types of any subcontractors, dealers, distributors, personnel, or specialized equipment which may be required to furnish Products & Services to Program Participants will be determined by Winning Supplier. Winning Supplier agrees to engage the number and types of subcontractors, personnel, and/or specialized equipment necessary to furnish the types of Products & Services as specified in **Appendix B** to all Program Participants throughout the Term, as defined in **Appendix A**, of this Master Agreement and any Customer Agreement.
- 2.2. **Supplemental Agreements.** Winning Supplier may enter into separate supplemental agreements with an Equalis Group Participant to further define the terms and conditions of purchasing Products & Services as defined in **Appendix B** ("**Customer Agreement**"). Any Customer Agreement entered into as a result of this contract is exclusively between the Program Participant and Winning Supplier. Neither CCOG, Equalis Group, its agents, Member and employees shall be made party to any claim for breach of such agreement.
- 2.3. **Rates & Charges.** The rates, fees, and charges to be charged to and paid by Program Participants for Products & Services are set forth in **Appendix B**. Winning Supplier agrees that there are no other applicable rates, fees, charges, or other monetary incentives for Products & Services except those set forth in Winning Supplier's cost proposal.
- 2.4. **The Term.** This Master Agreement and the Appendices attached hereto will become effective as of effective date identified in the **Master Agreement Signature Form** (the "**Effective Date**"). This Master Agreement will remain in effect for four (4) years and will expire on the date identified in the **Master Agreement Signature Form** (the "**Termination Date**") unless extended, terminated, or cancelled as set forth in the Master Agreement (the "**Initial Term**"). This Master Agreement may be renewed for one (1) additional one (1) year period by CCOG (a "**Renewal Term**") unless this Master Agreement is terminated as set forth herein. By mutual consent of the Parties, the Term of this Master Agreement may be extended beyond the Initial and Renewal Term (the "**Extended Term**"). The Initial Term together with all Renewal Terms and Extended Terms exercised are hereinafter collectively referred to as the "**Term**."
- 2.5. **Formation of Contract**
- a. **Bidder Contract Documents.** CCOG and Equalis Group will review proposed Bidder contract documents. Bidder's contract document shall not become part of CCOG and Equalis Groups' contract with Bidder unless and until an authorized representative of CCOG and Equalis Group reviews and approves it.
 - b. **Entire Agreement.** This Master Agreement, including its Recitals, together with all components of the RFP, attachments, appendices, and exhibits hereto, constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior oral or written representations and agreements with regard to the same subject matter. The Parties acknowledge that this Master Agreement has been negotiated and incorporates their collective agreement as to the provisions to be contained herein. Therefore, no presumption will arise giving benefit of interpretation by virtue of authorship of any provision of this Master Agreement, and any ambiguity may not be construed for or against any Party. Winning Supplier's complete and final RFP response is hereby incorporated into and made part of this Master Agreement.
 - c. **Modification.** No release, discharge, abandonment, waiver, alteration, or modification of any of the provisions of this Master Agreement, or any of the Appendices incorporated herein, shall be binding upon any Party unless set forth in a writing signed by authorized representatives of the Parties.
 - d. **Assignment.** This Master Agreement and the rights and obligations hereunder may not be assignable by any Party hereto without the prior written consent of the other Parties, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed, provided, however, that Winning Supplier and Equalis may assign their respective rights and obligations under this Master Agreement without the consent of

the other Parties in the event either Winning Supplier or Equalis shall hereafter effect a corporate reorganization, consolidation, merger, merge into, sale to, or a transfer of all or substantially all of its properties or assets to another entity. Subject to the preceding sentence, this Master Agreement will be binding upon, inure to the benefit of, and be enforceable by the Parties and their respective successors and assigns. Any instrument purporting to make an assignment in violation of this section shall be null and void. This Master Agreement may be extended to additional entities affiliated with the Parties upon the mutual agreement of the Parties. No such extension will relieve the extending Party of its rights and obligations under this Master Agreement.

e. Order of Precedence.

- (1) General terms and conditions
- (2) Specifications and scope of work
- (3) Attachments and exhibits
- (4) Documents referenced or included in the solicitation

2.6. Confidentiality.

- a. Obligation.** The nature and details of the business relationship established by this Master Agreement, and the business information regarding the other Party(ies) (the “**Disclosing Party**”) to which a Party(ies) (the “**Receiving Party**”) may become privy during the Term of this Master Agreement (collectively, the “**Information**”) constitute confidential and proprietary information, the disclosure, copying, or distribution of which could result in competitive harm to the Disclosing Party. Each Party agrees to maintain the other Parties’ Information in the strictest confidence and agrees not to disclose, copy, or distribute the other Parties’ Information, whether orally or in writing, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, except to those of the Receiving Party’s employees, agents, subcontractors, and suppliers with a need to know the Information. The foregoing will not limit a Receiving Party, for purposes of marketing, from informing actual or potential Equalis Group Participants of the existence of a contractual relationship between the Parties. The Parties further agree that they will require that all of their employees, agents, subcontractors, and suppliers abide by the terms of these confidentiality obligations. The confidentiality obligations set forth in this section will continue in effect for the Term of this Master Agreement and for a period of two (2) years after the date this Master Agreement is terminated or expires.
- b. Exceptions.** Nothing herein will apply to any information (a) which is or becomes generally available to the public other than as a result of a disclosure by a Receiving Party or its representatives, (b) which was available on a non-confidential basis prior to its disclosure by the Disclosing Party or its representatives, (c) which becomes available to a Receiving Party on a non-confidential basis from a source other than the Disclosing Party or its representatives, provided that such source is not known to be subject to any prohibition against transmitting the information, (d) which is disclosed pursuant to an order of court; provided that in the event that proprietary information is disclosed or threatened to be disclosed pursuant to this clause (d), the Receiving Party will give the original Disclosing Party prompt, written Notice, as hereinafter defined, of such threatened disclosure and the right to defend against such disclosure, at Disclosing Party’s expense, and provided further that the original Receiving Party will cooperate reasonably in such defense, or (e) which is subject to a Freedom of Information Act Request or other public records request to which a Party is, or may be, required to respond by applicable law.

- 2.7. Indemnification.** Winning Supplier shall protect, indemnify, and hold harmless both CCOG and Equalis Group and its Members, administrators, employees and agents against all claims, damages, losses and expenses arising out of or resulting from the actions of Winning Supplier, Winning Supplier employees or

subcontractors in the preparation of the solicitation and the later execution of the contract, including any supplemental agreements with Members.

2.8. Notice & Opportunity to Defend; Limitations & Thresholds.

- a. **Notice; Opportunity.** If any Losses are asserted against an Indemnified Party, such Indemnified Party shall notify the Indemnifying Party as promptly as practicable and give it an opportunity to defend the same. The Indemnified Party shall reasonably cooperate with the Indemnifying Party in connection with such defense. In the event that the Indemnifying Party in connection with such claim fails to defend against the claim within thirty (30) days after Notice of such claim, the Indemnified Party shall be entitled to assume the defense thereof, and the Indemnifying Party shall be liable to repay the Indemnified Party entitled to indemnification for all its expenses reasonably incurred in connection with said defense (including reasonable attorneys' fees and settlement payments) until the Indemnifying Party assumes such defense. The attorneys prosecuting such defense on behalf of a Party must be acceptable to the Indemnified Party, which acceptance shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- b. **Liability.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this Master Agreement, indemnity obligations entered into hereunder shall be due only to the extent of the Losses actually suffered by an Indemnified Party (i.e., reduced by any offsetting or related asset or service received and any recovery from any third party). The Indemnifying Party's insurance shall obtain all rights of the Indemnified Party against any third party with respect to any claim for which indemnity was paid.

2.9. Winning Supplier Insurance. During the Term of this Master Agreement, and for two (2) years following expiration or termination of this Master Agreement, Winning Supplier, at its own expense, shall maintain and shall require that its agents, subcontractors, and suppliers engaged in Winning Supplier's performance of its duties under this Master Agreement maintain general liability insurance, property insurance, and automobile insurance (at a minimum, in the amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$5,000,000 annual aggregate) applicable to any claims, liabilities, damages, costs, or expenses arising out of its performance under this Master Agreement, or any Appendix, and with respect to, or arising out of, Winning Supplier's provision of Products & Services to Program Participants. CCOG, Equalis, and their respective officers, directors, employees, and agents will be named as certificate holders on Winning Supplier's related insurance policies. All such insurance policies shall incorporate a provision requiring the giving of written Notice to CCOG and Equalis at least thirty (30) days prior to the cancellation, nonrenewal, and/or material modification of any such policies. Winning Supplier shall submit to Equalis within ten (10) calendar days after the Effective Date of this Master Agreement, and prior to furnishing Products & Services to any Program Participants, valid certificates evidencing the effectiveness of the foregoing insurance policies. Winning Supplier shall provide such valid certificates on an annual basis until the terms of this section are no longer applicable.

2.10. Termination Rights. The Parties shall have the termination rights set forth below.

- a. **Insolvency.** If a petition in bankruptcy is filed by any Party, or if any Party is adjudicated as bankrupt, or if any Party makes a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, or if a receiver is appointed on account of the insolvency of any Party, then the other Parties, without prejudice to any other right or remedy, may terminate this Master Agreement upon giving at least five (5) business days prior written Notice of such termination.
- b. **Mutual Consent.** This Master Agreement, or any Appendix, may be terminated at any time by the mutual written consent of the Parties.

c. **Breach.** In the event that any Party commits a material breach of its obligations under this Master Agreement, except for a payment obligation, the non-breaching Party(ies) may provide written Notice describing the material breach to the breaching Party. The breaching Party will have thirty (30) calendar days to cure such breach or provide acceptable reassurance to the non-breaching Party(ies), or, if the Parties agree that a cure or reassurance is not feasible within thirty calendar (30) days, such period of time for cure or satisfactory reassurance as the Parties may agree in writing. If the breach is not cured within such period or if satisfactory reassurance is not accepted by the non-breaching Party(ies) in such period, then the Party(ies) not in breach may terminate this Master Agreement upon ten (10) business days written Notice at the Addresses for Notices set forth in Appendix A.

2.11. Effects of Termination. Upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, all Customer Agreements entered into with Program Participants shall immediately terminate. Winning Supplier shall immediately cease any sales of Products & Services to any Program Participant under and through the terms of this Master Agreement. Following the date of termination, Winning Supplier shall not be precluded from selling its products and services to individuals, businesses, and entities that were Program Participants when this Master Agreement was in effect either directly or through some other contract vehicle. Following the date of termination, CCOG and Equalis shall not be precluded from transitioning individuals, businesses, and entities that were Program Participants when this Master Agreement was in effect to another agreement or Equalis Group supplier partner.

2.12. Audit of Winning Supplier. CCOG and Equalis, whether directly or through an independent auditor or accounting firm, shall have the right to perform audits, including inspection of books, records, and computer data relevant to Winning Supplier's provision of Products & Services to Program Participants pursuant to this Master Agreement, to ensure that pricing, inventory, quality, process, and business controls are maintained; provided, however, that such inspections and audits will be conducted upon reasonable notice to Winning Supplier and so as not to unreasonably interfere with Winning Supplier's business or operations.

2.13. Force Majeure. This Master Agreement will be temporarily suspended during any period to the extent that any Party during that period is unable to carry out its obligations under this Master Agreement or the Appendices by reason of an Act of God or the public enemy, act of terrorism, epidemic or pandemic, fire, flood, labor disorder not caused by Winning Supplier, civil commotion, closing of the public highways not caused by Winning Supplier, government interference, government regulations, or any other event or occurrence beyond the reasonable control of the affected Party ("**Event of Force Majeure**"). No Party will have any liability to the other Party(ies) for a delay in performance nor failure to perform to the extent this Master Agreement or any Appendix is so temporarily suspended; provided that nothing contained herein shall apply to payment obligations with respect to obligations which have already been performed under this Master Agreement. If the provision of Products & Services are impeded due to an Event of Force Majeure, then Winning Supplier may apportion the provision of Products & Services among its present and future customers on a fair and reasonable basis after consulting with Equalis and the Program Participants potentially affected and in a manner that would not reasonably be expected to disproportionately affect Program Participants.

2.14. Notices. All notices, claims, certificates, requests, demands, and other communications required or permitted hereunder ("**Notice**") must be in writing and will be deemed given to the Addresses for Notices (a) when delivered personally to the recipient, (b) upon delivery by reputable overnight courier service (charges prepaid), or (c) upon delivery or refusal of delivery by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, and addressed to the intended recipient. The Parties agree that the day-to-day business communications,

including notification of a change of address, pricing updates, or revisions to any Appendix, may be made via electronic communication.

- a. **Addresses for Notices.** Written notices for the Winning Supplier will be sent to the remittance address provided the Winning Supplier's proposal.

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|----|---|-----|---|
| i. | If to CCOG : | ii. | If to EQUALIS : |
| | The Cooperative Council of Governments, Inc.
Attn: Board President
6001 Cochran Road, Suite 333
Cleveland, Ohio 44139
Facsimile: 440.337.0002 | | Equalis Group, LLC.
Attn: Eric Merkle, SVP
5550 Granite Parkway,
Suite 298
Plano, Texas 75024 |

2.15. Waiver. Other than the rights and obligations with respect to payment provided by this Master Agreement, waiver by any Party(ies) of or the failure of any Party(ies) hereto to enforce at any time its rights with regard to any breach or failure to comply with any provision of this Master Agreement by the other Party(ies) may not be construed as, or constitute, a continuing waiver of such provision, or a waiver of any other future breach of or failure to comply with the same provision or any other provision of this Master Agreement.

2.16. Governing Law; Invalidity. This Master Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the State of Ohio without regard to rules of conflict of laws. If any provision of this Master Agreement is declared unlawful or unenforceable by judicial determination or performance, then the remainder of this Master Agreement shall continue in force as if the invalidated provision did not exist. Any suits filed by any Party pursuant to this Master Agreement shall be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction located in Cuyahoga County, Ohio. In the event any Party initiates a suit and that suit is adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction, the prevailing Party shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs from the non-prevailing Party in addition to any other relief to which the court determines the prevailing Party is entitled or awarded.

2.17. No Third-Party Beneficiaries; Survival of Representations. This Master Agreement is made solely for the benefit of the Parties to it, and no other persons will acquire or have any right under or by virtue of this Master Agreement. Except as otherwise provided herein, all representations, warranties, covenants, and agreements of the Parties shall remain in full force and effect regardless of any termination of this Master Agreement, in whole or in part.

2.18. Execution in Counterparts. This Master Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original. For purposes of this Master Agreement, a facsimile, scanned, or electronic signature will be deemed an original signature.

2.19. Nondiscrimination & Intimidation.

- a. Winning Supplier expressly agrees that in the hiring of employees for the performance of work or services under this Master Agreement or any subcontract that takes place in the State of Ohio, Winning Supplier, its subcontractors, or any person acting on a Winning Supplier's or its subcontractor's behalf shall not

discriminate in the hiring of employees by reason of race, creed, sex, disability as defined in **Section 4112.01** of the Ohio Revised Code nor shall it discriminate against any citizen of the State of Ohio in the employment of labor or workers who are qualified and available to perform the Work to which the employment relates.

- b.** Winning Supplier expressly agrees that Winning Supplier, any of its subcontractors, or any person on behalf of Winning Supplier or its subcontractors in any manner shall not discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work or services under this Master Agreement on account of race, creed, sex, disability as defined in **Section 4112.01** of the Ohio Revised Code, or color.
- c.** Winning Supplier expressly agrees to include principally similar provisions of this section in each of its written subcontractor agreements for the Products & Services subject to this Master Agreement.



Equalis Group

ORIGINAL

Response to Request for Proposals: RFP COG-2134 Remediation, Restoration, and Rebuild Services
Due Date :Thursday, June 23, 2022.
Cotton Commercial USA, Inc. | 5443 Katy Hockley Cut Off Road, Katy, TX 77493





GLOBAL DISASTER SOLUTIONS

RESTORATION • CONSTRUCTION • ROOFING • ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE • LOGISTICAL SUPPORT • CULINARY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ORGANIZATION

Cotton is one of the world's most experienced full-service disaster recovery and restoration firms. Cotton stands at the forefront of major disasters, providing around-the-clock service backed by cutting-edge technology, highly skilled personnel, and years of operational expertise to recover enterprises as quickly as possible.

Founded in Houston, Texas, in 1996, Cotton built upon its reputation of excellence to expand throughout Texas, then to key locations in the United States and beyond. Cotton focuses on serving corporate and retail businesses, manufacturing and industrial clients, the healthcare, education and hospitality industries, and government agencies. Cotton's success is directly attributed to providing the highest level of customer service.

When it comes to disaster response, Cotton's first-hand experience is virtually unsurpassed. Over the last two decades, Cotton has been instrumental in the recovery efforts due to individual losses and major events, including weather-related and other natural catastrophes, terrorism, vandalism, and environmental mishaps, both in the U.S. and internationally. Through turnkey service capabilities and innovative solutions, Cotton can provide continuity of operations in the most efficient and cost-effective manner, ultimately reducing our clients' business interruption and property loss claim. Cotton has the team and resources in place to turn any unfortunate event into a successful restoration project. When disaster strikes, Cotton clients are assured of expert attention to protect assets, assess and restore damaged property, and determine a critical path for recovery that will minimize the delay to operations.

Cotton is committed to:

- 24/7 readiness to respond to any disaster and begin implementation of recovery measures in a strategically effective way.
- Employing state-of-the-art equipment and innovative techniques
- The continued professional development and skills of the company's highly experienced, trained and certified staff.
- Maintaining jobsite safety at all times through hazard assessments, planning, training and strict oversight of process implementation on every project.
- Remaining in compliance with all federal, state and local regulations.
- Surpassing client expectations on every project through communication and quality.

Disasters are both inevitable and unpredictable, guaranteed to happen but often without warning. Varying in type and magnitude, disasters happen suddenly, creating chaos and uncertainty for those affected. For entities of all sizes, a disaster means abrupt sudden disruption of all or part of its business operations, resulting in possible revenue loss or inability to provide public assistance.

The process of preparing a disaster recovery plan begins by identifying these possible causes and effects, analyzing their likelihood and severity, and ranking the outcomes in terms of priority. The ultimate results are a formal assessment of risk, a recovery plan that includes all available mechanisms, and a formalized Disaster Recovery Team (Cotton and Partner Client) that has responsibility for planning, rehearsing, and executing the disaster recovery plan.



OPERATIONAL LINES OF EFFORT

Cotton and the Client Partner will establish four specific times to assist in the implementation of a disaster recovery plan:

Preparedness

The continuity planning phase is a period of time during which activities are undertaken by Cotton to increase readiness posture, policies, procedures and incident command systems of the partnership. This includes, but is not limited to, identification of risks that can bring about disasters by conducting risk analysis covering threats to business continuity. Also, this period includes, but is not limited to, pre-disaster assessment of critical infrastructure with emphasis on the vulnerabilities that may affect the likelihood of catastrophic failure for an enterprise.

Response

The reaction phase is a period of time during which notification procedure activities and initial damage and disruption surveys are undertaken. To establish how the contingency plan will be executed following a disaster, it is crucial to evaluate the nature and degree of damage to the enterprise. Cotton then activates response plans and begins to execute contingency actions with the Partner Client.

Mitigation

The mitigation phase starts immediately after the disaster recovery plan has been activated and appropriate teams have been mobilized. The activities of this phase focus on setting in motion the disaster recovery system, reduction of initial damage, and detailed evaluation of the crisis and potential for additional crisis or ancillary risks. The recovery procedure reflects priorities previously analyzed during the activation planning phase.

Recovery

In the recovery phase, activities are undertaken to fully recover the enterprise from disaster, place them back in a pre-loss condition, and return the enterprise operations back to the Partner Client through a complete host of catastrophe management and reconstruction services.



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In summary, disaster recovery plans should identify and classify the threats and risks that may result from disasters, define the resources and processes that ensure business continuity during the disaster, and define the reconstitution mechanisms to get the enterprise back to normal during the disaster recovery state. Effective disaster recovery plans play their role in all stages from pre to post planning and are continuously improved by disaster recovery mock training and feedback capture processes.

PLANNING FUNDAMENTALS

Cotton and the Partner Client work to establish policies and procedures that allow for the minimization of damages, preservation of a functioning administration, and maintenance of activities essential to survival and recovery. The Partner Client and Cotton recovery plan establishes guidelines for conducting efficient, effective, coordinated emergency operations involving all Cotton Resources, the Partner Client and maximization of interoperability.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

The Partner Client is the ultimate authority for the allocation of emergency resources. Cotton contingency services available to the Partner Client will include, but are not limited to:

- *Business Continuity Planning*
- *Catastrophe Consulting*
- *Catastrophe Management*
- *Emergency Response/Management*
- *Restoration/Recovery Services*
- *Construction Services/Consulting*
- *Environmental Response*
- *Logistics Service*
- *Debris Management/Services*
- *Leader Involvement*

CAPACITY



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-  **COTTON RESPONSE CENTERS** (18)
-  **FIRST RESPONDER LOCATIONS**
-  **STELLAR** (19)
COMMERCIAL ROOFING
A COTTON COMPANY
-  **FULL CIRCLE** (1)
Restoration
A COTTON COMPANY
-  **ACT** (19)
Advance Catastrophe Technologies
A COTTON COMPANY
-  **TARGET** (2)
SOLUTIONS
A COTTON COMPANY



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 01** PROPOSAL & REQUIRED FORMS
- 02** COTTON DOCUMENTATION
- 03** QUALIFICATIONS & REFERENCES
- 04** LICENSES
- 05** CAPABILITIES





GLOBAL DISASTER SOLUTIONS

TAB 1

PROPOSAL FORM 1: TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

1. OVERVIEW & QUALIFICATIONS

1.1. Company Information

1.1.1. Company Name:	Cotton Commercial USA, Inc	
1.1.2. Corporate Street Address:	5443 Katy Hockley Cutoff Rd. Katy, TX 77493	
1.1.3. Website:	www.cottongds.com	
1.1.4. Formation. In what year was the company formed? For how long has your company been operating under its present business name? If your company has changed its business name, include the most recent prior business name and the year of the name change.	Cotton Commercial USA, Inc was formed in October 2007. It has been under current name for 15 years.	
1.1.5. Primary Point of Contact. Provide information about the Bidder representative/contact person authorized to answer questions regarding the proposal submitted by your company:	Contact Name:	Parker Baker
	Title:	VP Business Development
	Phone:	281-932-3017
	E-Mail Address:	parkerb@cottonteam.com
1.1.6. Authorized Representative. Print or type the name of the Bidder representative authorized to address contractual issues, including the authority to execute a contract on behalf of Bidder, and to whom legal notices regarding contract termination or breach, should be sent.	Contact Name:	James Scaife
	Title:	President
	Phone:	877-511-2962
	E-Mail Address:	james@cottonteam.com

1.2. Financial Strength & Legal Considerations

1.2.1. Financial Strength. Demonstrate your financial strength and stability with meaningful data. This could include, but is not limited to, such items as financial statements, SEC filings, credit & bond ratings, letters of credit, and detailed reference letters. Note: you may mark this information as a "Trade Secret" per the terms outlined in the RFP.	Cotton Holdings financial health is excellent due to a strong balance sheet and will not only be able to meet its short-term financial obligations, but also its long - term financial goals. See attached Bonding Letter.	
1.2.2. Bankruptcy & Insolvency. Describe any bankruptcy or insolvency for your organization (or its predecessors, if any) or any principal of the firm in the last three (3) years.	Cotton has not been a part of bankruptcy or insolvency for over last 3 years. Cotton's balance sheet is healthy.	

<p>1.2.3. <i>Litigation.</i> Describe any litigation in which your company has been involved in the last three (3) years and the status of that litigation.</p>	<p>From time to time, Cotton Commercial USA, Inc. is a party to litigation in the ordinary course of business. Cotton Commercial USA, Inc. is not now, nor during the past 3 years has it been a party to litigation that would materially affect its business, financial condition or operating results</p>
<p>1.3. Company Qualifications</p>	
<p>1.3.1. <i>Company Description.</i> Provide a description of your company.</p>	<p>Originally founded in 1996 by Pete Bell and Daryn Ebrecht, Cotton built a reputation of excellence that has lasted more than 25 years. Beginning in Houston, Texas, Cotton focused on providing clients in both the private and public sector a single source solution following damage resulting from isolated incidents and large scale disasters. Cotton's emphasis on service resulted in the Company's expansion throughout Texas, the United States, and internationally, serving corporate and retail businesses, commercial office, manufacturing, and industrial clients, in industries including healthcare, education, hospitality, and entertainment, as well as the public sector.</p>
<p>1.3.2. <i>Industry Experience.</i> How long has your company provided the products and services outlined in your response to this RFP? What percentage of your company's revenue in each of the last three (3) full calendar years was generated from these products and services?</p>	<p>Cotton has provided emergency response restoration, mitigation, and reconstruction services for 26 years. About 75% of revenue is generated from these services over last 3 years.</p>
<p>1.3.3. <i>Socio-economically Disadvantaged Business Engagement.</i> Does bidder commit to take all affirmative steps set forth in 2 CFR 200.321 to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, labor surplus area firms are used when possible.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>1.3.4. <i>Geographic Reach.</i> Describe your company's service area in the United States and which areas you intend to offer services under a resulting contract if awarded.</p>	<p>Cottons service reach is in all 50 US States. We intend to provide services nationwide, except New Jersey.</p>
<p>1.3.5. <i>Certifications and Licenses.</i> Provide a detailed explanation outlining the licenses and certifications that are i) required to be held, and ii) actually held by your organization (including third parties and subcontractors that you use). Has your company maintained these certifications on an ongoing basis? If not, when and why</p>	<p>Cotton is a licensed contractor in all 50 states in the US. Cotton also carries asbestos/lead/mold license in Texas, Florida and Louisiana. Cotton carries HVAC license in Texas as well as roofing designations in states that carry a separate license. Cotton is also compliant with national, state and local business license.</p> <p>Please see attached GC License List.</p>

<p>did your company lose any referenced certifications?</p> <p>1.3.6. NOTE: Provide copies of any of the certificates or licenses included in your response in <u>Proposal Form 5 - Certifications and Licenses</u>.</p>	
<p>1.4. Public Sector Experience</p>	
<p>1.4.1. FEMA Experience. Provide a description of your experience working with FEMA declared emergencies.</p>	<p>Cotton has long history of experience working with both State and Federal regulations while working on projects for Federal Military bases such as Tyndall Air Force, NSA, Offut Air Force Base, state governments, local city and county governments while maintaining compliance. Cotton understands the importance of following every regulation required to complete the project successfully.</p> <p>Cotton has a demonstrative body of work with emergency services, restoration and recovery, rebuild and Capex projects for FICURMA and State of Texas higher education institutions. These services have been successfully provided for Cotton clients, such as University of Texas System, Texas A&M System, Rice University, Sam Houston University, Baylor University, and the University of Houston System.</p> <p>Cotton has a trained staff which includes not only ICS and NIMS-trained staff, but also ICS master instructors and DHS/EMI- approved All-Hazards ICS Position Specific instructors.</p> <p>In addition, our instructors have taught and currently teach various FEMA and college-level emergency management, safety, leadership, management, and security courses. We have worked extensively to support many jurisdictions and agencies in their efforts to be compliant with NIMS, and to prepare for all-hazards response, recovery and mitigation. Cotton have trained and certified thousands of first responders, governmental and civilian administration and support personnel in NIMS, the National Response Plan/ Framework, and all levels of ICS, including All Hazard Section Chiefs and Type 1, 2 and 3 Incident Management Teams.</p> <p>Cotton works to uphold all FEMA requirements and has worked multiple projects under the associated requests pertaining to claims and projects requiring this standard. In addition, Cotton routinely works with Risk Mangers, Insurance Brokers and Insurance Adjusters. Cotton will keep all parties to the claim well informed of the progress and status of the claim. Cotton is keenly aware of both FEMA and Insurance Processes, Reports, Invoicing Procedures, and back up paperwork needed to perform and document each project.</p>

<p>1.4.2. Public Sector Cooperative Contracts. Provide a list of the public sector cooperative contracts (e.g., state term contracts, public sector cooperatives, etc.) you currently hold and the annual revenue through those contracts in each of the last three (3) calendar year.</p>	<p>Omnia Partners R191605 1M in revenue</p>
<p>1.4.3. Education Success. What is the i) total dollar amount, and ii) percentage of your company’s total annual revenue generated by sales to educational institutions (i.e., K-12 schools & school districts and high education)?</p>	<p>12% total annual revenue at 20M</p>
<p>1.4.4. Government Success. What is the i) total dollar amount, and ii) percentage of your company’s total annual revenue generated by sales to local governments (i.e., municipalities, counties, special districts, and state agencies)?</p>	<p>6% total annual revenue at 10M</p>
<p>1.4.5. Customer References. Provide references of at least five (5) local government or educational institution customers for which your company has provided products and services similar in nature and scope to those defined in this RFP in the last three (3) years. Each reference should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Customer contact person and their title, telephone number, and email address; b. A brief description of the products and services provided by your company; c. Customer relationship starting and ending dates; and, <p>1.4.6. Notes or other pertinent information relating to the customer and/or the products and services your company provided.</p>	<p>See attached education references</p>
<p>2. <u>Products & Services</u></p>	
<p>2.1. PRODUCTS & SERVICES</p>	
<p>2.1.1. Product & Services Description(s). Provide a detailed description of the products and</p>	<p>Cotton is a leading infrastructure support services company with subsidiaries that conduct business under the Cotton Commercial USA, such as Cotton Construction, Cotton Roofing, Cotton Logistics and</p>

<p>services you are offering as a part of your proposal.</p> <p>IMPORTANT. This description along with the products and services included in the Attachment B – Cost Proposal will be utilized to define the overall products and services available under a resulting contract.</p>	<p>Cotton Culinary brands. Cotton Restoration division will be responsible for providing restoration services and reconstruction services.</p>
<p>2.1.2. Emergency Response. Describe how your organization responds to emergencies.</p>	<p>Once Cotton is notified by Equalis Group, within 15 minutes the designated Cotton Project Coordinator (PC) will contact the appropriate Equalis Group representative with information including onsite arrival time and initial personnel quantities. Within 1-4 hours, Cotton professionals to include management and operations personnel will be onsite to begin mitigation services and damage assessments. Cotton has regional strategic partners, with hospitality experience to provide internal and dedicated labor, assets, and resources to simultaneously assist Equalis Group as a priority client under the direct control of Cotton.</p>
<p>2.1.3. Project Management. Provide a description of your approach, strategies and personnel requirements as it relates to project management</p>	<p>The Project Directors (Coordinators/Managers) are assigned based on their experience, expertise, and geographic location as well as other factors relative to specific client needs. The Project Coordinator is responsible for the overall communication and success of a project. The Project Manager is responsible for the day-to-day requirements of each loss and will be in command of all work taking place on site. In the event a change of scope is required, the Project Manager will notify all necessary parties prior to any modification to the agreed upon scope and once approved the project will continue. Additionally, the Project Manager is responsible for all daily paperwork, which is used to capture labor hours and materials utilized for the job.</p>
<p>2.1.4. Additional Offering. Please include any additional products and services not included in the scope of the solicitation that you think will enhance and add value to this contract’s participating agencies.</p>	<p>Please see attached Cotton Logistics, Environmental and Culinary Slick for value added services.</p>
<p>3. <u>Business Operations</u></p>	
<p>3.1. Customer Service</p>	
<p>3.1.1. Customer Service Department. Describe your company’s customer service department & operations. Your description may include, but is not limited to, hours of operation, number and location of service centers, parts outlets, number of customer</p>	<p>Cotton maintains a 24/7/365 Watch operation that monitors the weather and current events throughout the United States. The Watch’s operational detail consists of monitoring open source data points such as NOAA which provides current storm reports for damaged areas from wind, hail and tornadoes. A second example of weather open data source is</p>

<p>service representatives. Clarify if the service centers are owned by your company or if they are a network of subcontractors.</p>	<p>Early Alert which identifies Cotton locations and client's locations for significant weather events (i.e. severe thunderstorms, heat index and any other watch and warning systems). In addition, the Watch also monitors lead sources such as Local and National news outlets, local emergency radios as we listen for dispatches on national storm related events and daily social media.</p> <p>Uniquely, Cotton maintains a 24-hour hotline and operations node within our Corporate Headquarters in Katy Texas. It is always serviced by fulltime Cotton employees and is the call center for all Cotton operations. Cotton does not utilize an answering service. A call received at any time is received by Cotton personnel that understand our core requirements and know immediately what details are needed, how to organize project details and who those details should be distributed to for instant action.</p> <p>Cotton is available 24 hours a day / 7 days a week / 365 days a year.</p>
<p>3.1.2. Bonding Capabilities</p>	
<p>3.1.3. Bonding. Describe your company's bonding capacity. Your response may include, but is not limited to, the bonding company's surety rating.</p>	<p>Cotton has bonding support on single projects of \$20,000,000.00 with a total aggregate of \$100,000,000.00.</p>
<p>4. PRICING</p>	
<p>4.1. Cost Proposal</p>	
<p>4.1.1. Pricing Model. Provide a description of your pricing model or methodology identifying how the model works for the products and services included in your proposal. Your response should describe how the proposed pricing model is able to be audited by an Equalis Group member to assure compliance with the pricing in the Master Agreement.</p>	<p>Cotton utilizes a Time and Materials Method for Restoration services for recording billable items and calculating our invoice. Please see our T&M Rate Sheet. Our employees sign in and out before and after each shift. All time, materials, travel, and equipment usage are tracked with crew sheets that are filled out and reviewed daily, then reviewed again at the end of the project. These log sheets are available to the client during and after the completion of the project, upon request. All reimbursables are tracked through receipts, which are provided as the backup of our invoice. The Project Manager, Project Coordinator and Field Accountant review every project before the client receives the final booklet and invoice.</p> <p>For Construction Cotton uses Xactimate software for unit cost pricing with a coefficient of 1. When</p>

	<p>Cotton Construction scopes a job, it does an initial assessment for safety concerns first to make sure there are no hazardous materials, power and gas is shut off and the structure is sound to enter. Cotton will walk a loss determining what needs to be reconstructed and take detailed measurements of each component that needs to be worked on.</p>
<p>4.1.2. Cost Proposal Value. Which of the following statements best describes the pricing offered included in Bidder’s cost proposal?</p>	<p>The prices offered in your Cost Proposal are:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> lower than what you offer other group purchasing organizations, cooperative purchasing organizations, or state purchasing departments.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> equal to what you offer other group purchasing organizations, cooperative purchasing organizations, or state purchasing departments.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> higher than what you offer other group purchasing organizations, cooperative purchasing organizations, or state purchasing departments.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not applicable. Please explain below.</p>
<p>4.1.3. Additional Savings. Describe any quantity or volume discounts or rebate programs included in your Cost Proposal.</p>	<p>Cotton will offer a Quick Pay Discount of 3% Net 15</p>
<p>4.1.4. Pricing Open Market or Sourced Goods. Propose a method for the pricing of Open Market Items.</p> <p>NOTE: For a definition of Open Market Items, please refer to Part One, Section 5 – Pricing.</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>5. <u>GO-TO-MARKET STRATEGY</u></p>	
<p>5.1. Bidder Organizational Structure & Staffing of Relationship</p>	
<p>5.1.1. Key Contacts. Provide contact information and resumes for the person(s) who will be responsible for the following areas;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Executive Contact 2. Contract Manager 3. Sales Leader 4. Reporting Contact 5. Marketing Contact. <p>Indicate who the primary contact will be if it is not the Sales Leader.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. James Scaife- President james@cottonteam.com 2. Blake Adkins- Contracts Manager blake.adkins@cottonteam.com 3. Parker Baker- Sales parkerb@cottonteam.com 4. Leslie Klodzinski- AR Manager AR@cottonteam.com <p>5.ZINAT.AHMED@COTTONTEAM.COM</p> <p>ZINAT AHMED- EVP MARKETING</p>
<p>5.1.2. Sales Organization. Provide a description of your sales organization, including key</p>	<p>Please see attached Cotton Footprint Map which includes Cotton</p>

<p>staff members, the size of the organization, in-house vs. third-party sales resources, geographic territories, vertical market segmentation, etc.</p>	<p>Response Locations and First Responder locations. From our closest regional facility or strategic partner location and qualified 1st responder, Cotton will provide needed services, equipment, and supplies that are essential to begin mitigation services. Supported by surrounding Cotton locations and suppliers acting as a “force multiplier” Cotton will begin allocating needed assets and resources. Within 15 minutes, Cotton will contact the designated representative to obtain a detailed assessment of damaged locations. Simultaneously, Cotton’s internal operations team will begin to prepare for deployment and transportation of needed assets and resources to the appropriate location. Our Cotton designated project coordinator / manager will be in constant communication with the Equalis team, advising detailed timelines, procedures, and scope of services needed to properly mitigate the property damage.</p> <p>Cotton maintains a strong and cohesive network on a national basis due to the expansive day-to-day work generated in the Restoration Industry. We utilize a combination of over 20 years of work with our strategic partners and our internal Human Resources and Recruiting Departments to both maintain past relationships and quickly and efficiently acquire additional assets and personnel. Cotton allocates a substantial amount of time and effort to further bolster our capabilities by actively maintaining contact with our entire network on a regular basis throughout each year.</p>
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5.2. Contract Implementation Strategy & Expectations	
5.2.1. Contract Expectation. What are your company’s expectations in the event of a contract award?	Cotton expectations in the event of award is to utilize Equalis list to start process in generating new clients and revenue.
5.2.2. Five (5) Year Sales Vision & Strategy. Describe your company’s vision and strategy to leverage a resulting contract	Cotton working with Equalis plans on executing a cooperative marketing strategy. It’s more time efficient and cost-effective to band together and

<p>with Equalis over the next five (5) years. Your response may include but is not limited to; the geographic or public sector vertical markets being targeted; your strategy for acquiring new business and retaining existing business; how the contract will be deployed with your sales team; and the time frames in which this will be completed.</p>	<p>cross-promote services. For Equalis clients, cooperative marketing can be highly convenient- as well as economically efficient for the businesses pooling their resources together. Over next 5 years is to on a year-to-year basis is to expand new clients and growth on year over year revenue growth.</p>
<p>5.2.3. Sales Objectives. What are your top line sales objectives in each of the five (5) years if awarded this contract?</p>	<p>Cotton sales objectives over next 5 years is customer outreach, customer satisfaction, customer retainment. These factors in tandem with Equalis will help drive revenue growth and expand footprint for successful partnership that will have metric to support growth each year.</p>
<p>6. ADMIN FEE & REPORTING</p>	
<p>6.1. Admin Fee</p>	
<p>6.1.1. Administrative Fee. Equalis Group only generates revenue when the Winning Supplier generates revenue based on contract utilization by current and future Members. The proposed Administrative Fee for this contract is two percent (2%) based on the terms disclosed in the <u>Attachment A – Model Administration Agreement.</u></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agree to proposed Administrative Fee <input type="checkbox"/> Negotiate Administrative Fee. Provide additional information below if you opt to negotiate.</p>
<p>6.2. Reporting</p>	
<p>6.2.1. Sales & Administrative Fee Reporting. Equalis Group requires monthly reports detailing sales invoiced the prior month and associated Administrative Fees earned by the 15th of each month. Confirm that your company will meet this reporting requirement. If not, explain why and propose an alternative time schedule for providing these reports to Equalis Group.</p>	<p>Cotton confirms</p>
<p>6.2.2. Self-Audit. Describe any self-audit process or program that you plan to employ to verify compliance with your proposed contract with Equalis Group. This process includes ensuring that Members obtain the correct pricing, reports reflect all sales made under the Contract, and Winning Supplier remit the proper admin fee to Equalis.</p>	<p>Cotton utilizes IFS software that integrates financial and operations data. These integrated systems approach performs functions relevant to accounting, estimating, procurement, production management, property management, reporting and service management. Monthly Sales reports can be generated as required.</p>

PROPOSAL FORM CHECKLIST

The following documents must be submitted with the Proposal

The below documents can be found in Section 2; Proposal Submission and Required Bid Forms and must be submitted with the proposal. Please note Proposal Form 2 is a separate attachment (attachment B).

TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

- Proposal Form 1: Technical Proposal**

PROPOSAL PRICING: Attachment B is provided separately in a Microsoft Excel file and is required to complete your cost proposal.

- Proposal Form 2: Cost Proposal**

OTHER REQUIRED PROPOSAL FORMS:

- Proposal Form 3 - Diversity Vendor Certification Participation**
- Proposal Form 4 - Certifications and Licenses**
- Proposal Form 5 - Unresolved Findings for Recovery**
- Proposal Form 6 - Mandatory Disclosures**
- Proposal Form 7 - Dealer, Reseller, and Distributor Authorization**
- Proposal Form 8 - Mandatory Supplier & Proposal Certifications**
- Proposal Form 9 - Clean Air Act & Clean Water Act**
- Proposal Form 10 - Debarment Notice**
- Proposal Form 11 - Lobbying Certification**
- Proposal Form 12 - Contractor Certification Requirements**
- Proposal Form 13 - Boycott Certification**
- Proposal Form 14 - Federal Funds Certification Forms**
- Proposal Form 15 - FEMA Requirements Certification Forms**
- Proposal Form 16 - Arizona Contractor Requirements**
- Proposal Form 17 - New Jersey Requirements**
- Proposal Form 18 - General Terms and Conditions Acceptance Form**
- Proposal Form 19 - Equalis Group Administration Agreement Declaration**
- Proposal Form 20 - Master Agreement Signature Form**

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PROPOSAL FORM 3: DIVERSITY VENDOR CERTIFICATION PARTICIPATION

Diversity Vendor Certification Participation - It is the policy of some Members participating in Equalis Group to involve minority and women business enterprises (M/WBE), small and/or disadvantaged business enterprises, disable veterans business enterprises, historically utilized businesses (HUB) and other diversity recognized businesses in the purchase of goods and services. Respondents shall indicate below whether or not they hold certification in any of the classified areas and include proof of such certification with their response.

a. Minority Women Business Enterprise

Respondent certifies that this firm is an MWBE: Yes No

List certifying agency: Click or tap here to enter text.

b. Small Business Enterprise (SBE) or Disadvantaged Business Enterprise ("DBE")

Respondent certifies that this firm is a SBE or DBE: Yes No

List certifying agency: Click or tap here to enter text.

c. Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise (DVBE)

Respondent certifies that this firm is an DVBE: Yes No

List certifying agency: Click or tap here to enter text.

d. Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB)

Respondent certifies that this firm is an HUB: Yes No

List certifying agency: Click or tap here to enter text.

e. Historically Underutilized Business Zone Enterprise (HUBZone)

Respondent certifies that this firm is an HUBZone: Yes No

List certifying agency: Click or tap here to enter text.

f. Other

Respondent certifies that this firm is a recognized diversity certificate holder: Yes No

List certifying agency: Click or tap here to enter text.

PROPOSAL FORM 4: CERTIFICATIONS AND LICENSES

Provide a copy of all current licenses, registrations and certifications issued by federal, state and local agencies, and any other licenses, registrations or certifications from any other governmental entity with jurisdiction, allowing Bidder to provide the products and services included in their proposal which can include, but not limited to licenses, registrations or certifications. M/WBE, HUB, DVBE, small and disadvantaged business certifications and other diverse business certifications, as well as manufacturer certifications for sales and service must be included if applicable

Please also list and include copies of any certificates you hold that would show value for your response not already included above.

Please see attached GC Licenses
(The rest of this page is intentionally left blank)

PROPOSAL FORM 5: UNRESOLVED FINDINGS FOR RECOVERY

O.R.C. Chapter 9.24 prohibits CCOG from awarding a contract to any entity against whom the Auditor of State has issued a finding for recovery, if such finding for recovery is “unresolved” at the time of award. By submitting a proposal, a Bidder warrants that it is not now, and will not become, subject to an “unresolved” finding for recovery under **O.R.C. Chapter 9.24** prior to the award of any contract arising out of this RFP, without notifying CCOG of such finding. The Proposal Review Team will not evaluate a proposal from any Bidder whose name, or the name of any of the subcontractors proposed by the Bidder, appears on the website of the Auditor of the State of Ohio as having an “unresolved” finding for recovery.

Is your company the subject of any unresolved findings for recoveries?

- Yes
 No

PROPOSAL FORM 6: MANDATORY DISCLOSURES

1. *Mandatory Contract Performance Disclosure.*

Disclose whether your company's performance and/or the performance of any of the proposed subcontractor(s) under contracts for the provision of products and services that are the same or similar to those to be provided for the Program which is the subject of this RFP has resulted in any formal claims for breach of those contracts. For purposes of this disclosure, "formal claims" means any claims for breach that have been filed as a lawsuit in any court, submitted for arbitration (whether voluntary or involuntary, binding or not), or assigned to mediation. For any such claims disclosed, fully explain the details of those claims, including the allegations regarding all alleged breaches, any written or legal action resulting from those allegations, and the results of any litigation, arbitration, or mediation regarding those claims, including terms of any settlement. While disclosure of any formal claims will not automatically disqualify a Bidder from consideration, at the sole discretion of Equalis Group, such claims and a review of the background details may result in a rejection of a Bidder's proposal. Equalis Group will make this decision based on the Proposal Review Team's determination of the seriousness of the claims, the potential impact that the behavior that led to the claims could have on the Bidder's performance of the work, and the best interests of Members.

Provide statement here. N/A

2. *Mandatory Disclosure of Governmental Investigations.*

Indicate whether your company and/or any of the proposed subcontractor(s) has been the subject of any adverse regulatory or adverse administrative governmental action (federal, state, or local) with respect to your company's performance of services similar to those described in this RFP. If any such instances are disclosed, Bidders must fully explain, in detail, the nature of the governmental action, the allegations that led to the governmental action, and the results of the governmental action including any legal action that was taken against the Bidder by the governmental agency. While disclosure of any governmental action will not automatically disqualify a Bidder from consideration, such governmental action and a review of the background details may result in a rejection of the Bidder's proposal at Group's sole discretion. Equalis Group will make this decision based on the Proposal Review Team's determination of the seriousness of the claims, the potential impact that the behavior that led to the claims could have on the Bidder's performance of the work, and the best interests of Members.

Provide statement here. N/A

PROPOSAL FORM 7: DEALER, RESELLER, AND DISTRIBUTOR AUTHORIZATION

CCOG allows Suppliers to authorize dealers, distributors, and resellers to sell the products and services made available through, and consistent with the Terms and Conditions set forth in, the Master Agreement. If Supplier intends to authorize their dealers, distributors, or resellers access to the Master Agreement in the event of a contract award Supplier must provide a list, either in the form of a document or a weblink, to identify those organizations who are being authorized access to the Master Agreement.

Will the Supplier authorize dealers, distributors, resellers access to Master Agreement?

Yes

No

If yes, how will Supplier disclose which organization(s) will have access to the Master Agreement? This list can be updated from time to time upon CCOG's approval.

Bidder Response: Click or tap here to enter text.

PROPOSAL FORM 8: MANDATORY SUPPLIER & PROPOSAL CERTIFICATIONS

CCOG may not enter into contracts with any suppliers who have been found to be ineligible for state contracts under specific federal or Ohio statutes or regulations. Bidders responding to any CCOG RFP MUST certify that they are NOT ineligible by signing each of the statements below. Failure to provide proper affirming signature on any of these statements will result in a Bidder's proposal being deemed nonresponsive to this RFP.

I, James Scaife, hereby certify and affirm that C, has not been debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in transactions by the United States Department of Labor, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, or any other federal department or agency as set forth in 29 CFR Part 98, or 45 CFR Part 76, or other applicable statutes.

AND

I, James Scaife, hereby certify and affirm that Cotton Commercial USA, Inc. is in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations, including but not limited to the Occupational Safety and Health Act and the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services and the following:

- Not penalized or debarred from any public contracts or falsified certified payroll records or any other violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act in the last three (3) years;
- Not found to have violated any worker's compensation law within the last three (3) years;
- Not violated any employee discrimination law within the last three (3) years;
- Not have been found to have committed more than one (1) willful or repeated OSHA violation of a safety standard (as opposed to a record keeping or administrative standard) in the last three (3) years;
- Not have an Experience Modification Rating of greater than 1.5 (a penalty-rated employer) with respect to the Bureau of Workers' Compensation risk assessment rating; and
- Not have failed to file any required tax returns or failed to pay any required taxes to any governmental entity within the past three (3) years.

AND

I, James Scaife, hereby certify and affirm that Cotton Commercial USA, Inc. is not on the list established by the Ohio Secretary of State, pursuant to **ORC Section 121.23**, which identifies persons and businesses with more than one unfair labor practice contempt of court finding against them.

AND

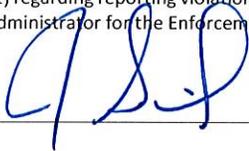
I, James Scaife, hereby certify and affirm that Bidder Name either is not subject to a finding for recovery under **ORC Section 9.24**, or has taken appropriate remedial steps required under that statute to resolve any findings for recovery, or otherwise qualifies under that section to enter into contracts with CCOG.

I, James Scaife, hereby affirm that this proposal accurately represents the capabilities and qualifications of Cotton Commercial USA, Inc. and I hereby affirm that the cost(s) proposed to CCOG for the performance of services and/or provision of goods covered in this proposal in response to this CCOG RFP is a firm fixed price structure as described in the Cost Proposal, inclusive of all incidental as well as primary costs. (Failure to provide the proper affirming signature on this item may result in the disqualification of your proposal.)

PROPOSAL FORM 9: CLEAN AIR ACT & CLEAN WATER ACT

The Bidder is in compliance with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act of 1970, as Amended (42 U.S. C. 1857 (h), Section 508 of the Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1368), Executive Order 117389 and Environmental Protection Agency Regulation, 40 CFR Part 15 as required under OMB Circular A-102, Attachment O, Paragraph 14 (1) regarding reporting violations to the grantor agency and to the United States Environment Protection Agency Assistant Administrator for the Enforcement.

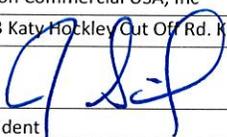
Authorized signature:



Printed Name: James Scaife
Company Name: Cotton Commercial USA, Inc
Mailing Address: 5443 Katy Hockley Cut Off Rd Katy TX 77493
Email Address: james@cottonteam.com
Job Title: President

PROPOSAL FORM 10: DEBARMENT NOTICE

I, the Bidder, certify that my company has not been debarred, suspended or otherwise ineligible for participation in Federal Assistance programs under Executive Order 12549, "Debarment and Suspension", as described in the Federal Register and Rules and Regulations.

Respondents Name: Cotton Commercial USA, Inc
Mailing Address: 5443 Katy Hockley Cut Off Rd. Katy TX 77493
Signature: 
Title of Signatory: President

PROPOSAL FORM 11: LOBBYING CERTIFICATIONS

Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction and is imposed by Section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to civil penalty of not less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) and not more than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for each such failure.

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his/her knowledge and belief, on behalf of Bidder that:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of a Federal contract, the making of a Federal grant, the making of a Federal loan, the entering into a cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.
3. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all covered sub-awards exceeding one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in Federal funds at all appropriate tiers and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Signature: _____

Date: 6/12/2012

PROPOSAL FORM 12: CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Contractor's Employment Eligibility

By entering the contract, Contractor warrants compliance with the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act (FINA), and all other federal and state immigration laws and regulations. The Contractor further warrants that it is in compliance with the various state statutes of the states it will operate this contract in.

Participating Government Entities including School Districts may request verification of compliance from any Contractor or subcontractor performing work under this Contract. These Entities reserve the right to confirm compliance in accordance with applicable laws.

Should the Participating Entities suspect or find that the Contractor or any of its subcontractors are not in compliance, they may pursue any and all remedies allowed by law, including, but not limited to: suspension of work, termination of the Contract for default, and suspension and/or debarment of the Contractor. All costs necessary to verify compliance are the responsibility of the Contractor.

The Respondent complies and maintains compliance with the appropriate statutes which requires compliance with federal immigration laws by State employers, State contractors and State subcontractors in accordance with the E-Verify Employee Eligibility Verification Program.

Contractor shall comply with governing board policy of the CCOG Participating entities in which work is being performed.

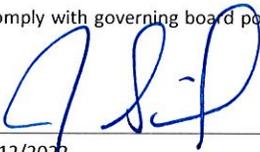
2. Fingerprint & Criminal Background Checks

If required to provide services on school district property at least five (5) times during a month, contractor shall submit a full set of fingerprints to the school district if requested of each person or employee who may provide such service. Alternately, the school district may fingerprint those persons or employees. An exception to this requirement may be made as authorized in Governing Board policy. The district shall conduct a fingerprint check in accordance with the appropriate state and federal laws of all contractors, subcontractors or vendors and their employees for which fingerprints are submitted to the district. Contractor, subcontractors, vendors and their employees shall not provide services on school district properties until authorized by the District.

The Respondent shall comply with fingerprinting requirements in accordance with appropriate statutes in the state in which the work is being performed unless otherwise exempted.

Contractor shall comply with governing board policy in the school district or Participating Entity in which work is being performed.

Signature:



Date: 6/12/2022

PROPOSAL FORM 14: FEDERAL FUNDS CERTIFICATION FORMS

When a participating agency seeks to procure goods and services using funds under a federal grant or contract, specific federal laws, regulations, and requirements may apply in addition to those under state law. This includes, but is not limited to, the procurement standards of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, 2 CFR 200 (sometimes referred to as the "Uniform Guidance" or "EDGAR" requirements).

All bidders submitting proposals must complete this Federal Funds Certification Form regarding bidder's willingness and ability to comply with certain requirements which may be applicable to specific participating agency purchases using federal grant funds. This completed form will be made available to Members for their use while considering their purchasing options when using federal grant funds. Members may also require Supplier Partners to enter into ancillary agreements, in addition to the contract's general terms and conditions, to address the member's specific contractual needs, including contract requirements for a procurement using federal grants or contracts.

For each of the items below, respondent should certify their agreement and ability to comply, where applicable, by having respondents authorized representative complete and initial the applicable lines after each section and sign the acknowledgment at the end of this form. If a Bidder fails to complete any item in this form, CCOG will consider the respondent's response to be that they are unable or unwilling to comply. A negative response to any of the items may, if applicable, impact the ability of a participating agency to purchase from the Supplier Partner using federal funds.

1. *Supplier Partner Violation or Breach of Contract Terms*

Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils) as authorized by 41 USC 1908, must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where Supplier Partners violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.

Any contract award will be subject to Terms and Conditions of the Master Agreement, as well as any additional terms and conditions in any purchase order, participating agency ancillary contract, or Member construction contract agreed upon by Supplier Partner and the participating agency which must be consistent with and protect the participating agency at least to the same extent as the CCOG Terms and Conditions.

The remedies under the contract are in addition to any other remedies that may be available under law or in equity. By submitting a proposal, you agree to these Supplier Partner violation and breach of contract terms.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

2. *Termination for Cause or Convenience*

When a participating agency expends federal funds, the participating agency reserves the right to immediately terminate any agreement in excess of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) resulting from this procurement process in the event of a breach or default of the agreement by Offeror in the event Offeror fails to: (1) meet schedules, deadlines, and/or delivery dates within the time specified in the procurement solicitation, contract, and/or a purchase order; (2) make any payments owed; or (3) otherwise perform in accordance with the contract and/or the procurement solicitation. Participating agency also reserves the right to terminate the contract immediately, with written notice to offeror, for convenience, if participating agency believes, in its sole discretion that it is in the best interest of participating agency to do so. Bidder will be compensated for work performed and accepted and goods accepted by participating agency as of the termination date if the contract is terminated for convenience of participating agency. Any award under this procurement process is not exclusive and participating agency reserves the right to purchase goods and services from other offerors when it is in participating agency's best interest.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

3. Equal Employment Opportunity

Except as otherwise provided under 41 CFR Part 60, all participating agency purchases or contracts that meet the definition of "federally assisted construction contract" in 41 CFR Part 60-1.3 shall be deemed to include the equal opportunity clause provided under 41 CFR 60-1.4(b), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity" (30 FR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR Part, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 339), as amended by Executive Order 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity," and implementing regulations at 41 CFR Part 60, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor."

The equal opportunity clause provided under 41 CFR 60-1.4(b) is hereby incorporated by reference. Supplier Partner agrees that such provision applies to any participating agency purchase or contract that meets the definition of "federally assisted construction contract" in 41 CFR Part 60-1.3 and Supplier Partner agrees that it shall comply with such provision.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

4. Davis-Bacon Act

When required by Federal program legislation, Supplier Partner agrees that, for all participating agency prime construction contracts/purchases in excess of two thousand dollars (\$2,000), Supplier Partner shall comply with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 USC 3141-3144, and 3146-3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5, "Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction"). In accordance with the statute, Supplier Partner is required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determinate made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, Supplier Partner shall pay wages not less than once a week.

Current prevailing wage determinations issued by the Department of Labor are available at www.wdol.gov. Supplier Partner agrees that, for any purchase to which this requirement applies, the award of the purchase to the Supplier Partner is conditioned upon Supplier Partner's acceptance of the wage determination.

Supplier Partner further agrees that it shall also comply with the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (40 USC 3145), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 3, "Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States". The Act provides that each Supplier Partner or subrecipient must be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he or she is otherwise entitled.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

5. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act

Where applicable, for all participating agency contracts or purchases in excess of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers, Supplier Partner agrees to comply with 40 USC 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under 40 USC 3702 of the Act, Supplier Partner is required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of forty (40) hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 USC 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

6. Right to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement

If the participating agency's Federal award meets the definition of "funding agreement" under 37 CFR 401.2(a) and the recipient or subrecipient wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance or experimental, developmental, or research work under that "funding agreement," the recipient or subrecipient must comply with the requirements of 37 CFR Part 401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

Supplier Partner agrees to comply with the above requirements when applicable.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

7. Clean Air Act and Federal Water Pollution Control Act

Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 USC 1251-1387), as amended – Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) must contain a provision that requires the non-Federal award to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (33 USC 1251-1387). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

When required, Supplier Partner agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

8. Debarment and Suspension

Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689) – A contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the government-wide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR Part 1966 Comp. p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR Part 1989 Comp. p. 235), "Debarment and Suspension." SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred,

suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.

Supplier Partner certifies that Supplier Partner is not currently listed on the government-wide exclusions in SAM, is not debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies or declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549. Supplier Partner further agrees to immediately notify the Cooperative and all Members with pending purchases or seeking to purchase from Supplier Partner if Supplier Partner is later listed on the government-wide exclusions in SAM, or is debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies or declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

9. Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment

Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 USC 1352) – Supplier Partners that apply or bid for an award exceeding one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 USC 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-Federal award. As applicable, Supplier Partner agrees to file all certifications and disclosures required by, and otherwise comply with, the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 USC 1352).

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

10. Procurement of Recovered Materials

For participating agency purchases utilizing Federal funds, Supplier Partner agrees to comply with Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act where applicable and provide such information and certifications as a participating agency maybe required to confirm estimates and otherwise comply. The requirements of Section 6002 includes procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR Part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded ten thousand dollars (\$10,000); procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery, and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

11. Profit as a Separate Element of Price

For purchases using federal funds in excess of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), a participating agency may be required to negotiate profit as a separate element of the price. See, 2 CFR 200.324(b). When required by a participating agency, Supplier Partner agrees to provide information and negotiate with the participating agency regarding profit as a separate element of the price for a particular purchase. However, Supplier Partner agrees that the total price, including

profit, charged by Supplier Partner to the participating agency shall not exceed the awarded pricing, including any applicable discount, under Supplier Partner's Group Purchasing Agreement.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

12. Prohibition on Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment

Vendor agrees that recipients and subrecipients are prohibited from obligating or expending loan or grant funds to procure or obtain, extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain, or enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain equipment, services, or systems that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system from companies described in Public Law 115-232, section 889. Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country are also prohibited.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

13. Domestic preferences for procurements

For participating agency purchases utilizing Federal funds, Bidder agrees to provide proof, where applicable, that the materials, including but not limited to, iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products are produced in the United States.

"Produced in the United States" means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States.

"Manufactured products" means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

14. General Compliance and Cooperation with Members

In addition to the foregoing specific requirements, Vendor agrees, in accepting any purchase order from a Member, it shall make a good faith effort to work with Members to provide such information and to satisfy such requirements as may apply to a particular participating agency purchase or purchases including, but not limited to, applicable recordkeeping and record retention requirements.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

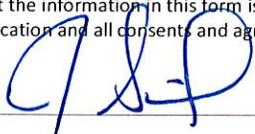
15. Applicability to Subcontractors

Offeror agrees that all contracts it awards pursuant to the Contract shall be bound by the foregoing terms and conditions.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

By signature below, I certify that the information in this form is true, complete, and accurate and that I am authorized by my company to make this certification and all consents and agreements contained herein.

Authorized signature:



Printed Name: James Scaife
Company Name: Cotton Commercial USA, Inc
Mailing Address: 5443 Katy Hockley Cut Off Rd. Katy TX 77493
Job Title: President

PROPOSAL FORM 15: FEMA REQUIREMENTS CERTIFICATION FORMS

When a participating agency seeks to procure goods and services using funds under a federal grant or contract, specific federal laws, regulations, and requirements may apply in addition to those under state law. This includes, but is not limited to, the procurement standards of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, 2 CFR 200 (sometimes referred to as the "Uniform Guidance" or "EDGAR" requirements). Additionally, Appendix II to Part 200 authorizes FEMA to require or recommend additional provisions for contracts.

All bidders submitting proposals must complete this FEMA Recommended Contract Provisions Form regarding bidder's willingness and ability to comply with certain requirements which may be applicable to specific participating agency purchases using FEMA funds. This completed form will be made available to Members for their use while considering their purchasing options when using FEMA grant funds. Members may also require Supplier Partners to enter into ancillary agreements, in addition to the contract's general terms and conditions, to address the member's specific contractual needs, including contract requirements for a procurement using federal grants or contracts.

For each of the items below, Bidder should certify bidder's agreement and ability to comply, where applicable, by having respondents authorized representative complete and initial the applicable lines after each section and sign the acknowledgment at the end of this form. If a Bidder fails to complete any item in this form, CCOG will consider the respondent's response to be that they are unable or unwilling to comply. A negative response to any of the items may, if applicable, impact the ability of a participating agency to purchase from the Supplier Partner using federal funds.

1. Access to Records

For All Procurements

The Winning Supplier agrees to provide the participating agency, the pass-through entity (if applicable), the FEMA Administrator, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their authorized representatives access to any books, documents, papers, and records of the Contractor which are directly pertinent to this contract for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions.

The Winning Supplier agrees to permit any of the foregoing parties to reproduce by any means whatsoever or to copy excerpts and transcriptions as reasonably needed.

The Winning Supplier agrees to provide the FEMA Administrator or his authorized representatives access to construction or other work sites pertaining to the work being completed under the contract.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

For Contracts Entered into After August 1, 2017, Under a Major Disaster or Emergency Declaration

In compliance with section 1225 of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018, the participating agency, and the Winning Supplier acknowledge and agree that no language in this contract is intended to prohibit audits or internal reviews by the FEMA Administrator or the Comptroller General of the United States."

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

2. Changes

FEMA recommends that all contracts include a changes clause that describes how, if at all, changes can be made by either party to alter the method, price, or schedule of the work without breaching the contract. The language of the clause may depend on the nature of the contract and the procured item(s) or service(s). The participating agency should also consult their servicing legal counsel to determine whether and how contract changes are permissible under applicable state, local, or tribal laws or regulations.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

3. Use of DHS Seal, Logo, and Flags

The Winning Supplier shall not use the DHS seal(s), logos, crests, or reproductions of flags or likenesses of DHS agency officials without specific FEMA pre-approval. The contractor shall include this provision in any subcontracts.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

4. Compliance with Federal Law, Regulations, And Executive Orders and Acknowledgement of Federal Funding

This is an acknowledgement that when FEMA financial assistance is used to fund all or a portion of the participating agency's contract with the Winning Supplier, the Winning Supplier will comply with all applicable federal law, regulations, executive orders, FEMA policies, procedures, and directives.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

5. No Obligation by Federal Government

The federal government is not a party to this or any contract resulting from this or future procurements with the participating agencies and is not subject to any obligations or liabilities to the non-federal entity, contractor, or any other party pertaining to any matter resulting from the contract.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

6. Program Fraud and False or Fraudulent Statements or Related Acts

The Winning Supplier acknowledges that 31 U.S.C. Chap. 38 (Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements) applies to the contractor's actions pertaining to this contract.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

7. Affirmative Socioeconomic Steps

If subcontracts are to be let, the Winning Supplier is required to take all necessary steps identified in 2 C.F.R. § 200.321(b)(1)-(5) to ensure that small and minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible.

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

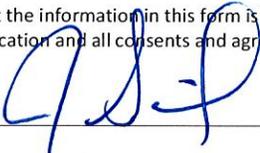
8. License and Delivery of Works Subject to Copyright and Data Rights

The Winning Supplier grants to the participating agency, a paid-up, royalty-free, nonexclusive, irrevocable, worldwide license in data first produced in the performance of this contract to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, including prepare derivative works, distribute copies to the public, and perform publicly and display publicly such data. For data required by the contract but not first produced in the performance of this contract, the Winning Supplier will identify such data and grant to the participating agency or acquires on its behalf a license of the same scope as for data first produced in the performance of this contract. Data, as used herein, shall include any work subject to copyright under 17 U.S.C. § 102, for example, any written reports or literary works, software and/or source code, music, choreography, pictures or images, graphics, sculptures, videos, motion pictures or other audiovisual works, sound and/or video recordings, and architectural works. Upon or before the completion of this contract, the Winning Supplier will deliver to the participating agency data first produced in the performance of this contract and data required by the contract but not first produced in the performance of this contract in formats acceptable by the (insert name of the non-federal entity).

Does Bidder agree? JS
(Initials of Authorized Representative)

By signature below, I certify that the information in this form is true, complete, and accurate and that I am authorized by my company to make this certification and all consents and agreements contained herein.

Authorized signature:



Printed Name: James Scaife
Company Name: Cotton Commercial USA, Inc
Mailing Address: 5443 Katy Hockley Cut Off Rd Katy TX 77493
Job Title: President

PROPOSAL FORM 16: ARIZONA CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS

Please answer the following question. If yes, please complete Proposal Form 15.

Does the awarded supplier intend to make their products and services available to public agencies in the State of Arizona?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

AZ Compliance with Federal and State Requirements

Contractor agrees when working on any federally assisted projects with more than \$2,000.00 in labor costs, to comply with all federal and state requirements, as well as Equal Opportunity Employment requirements and all other federal and state laws, statutes, etc. Contractor agrees to post wage rates at the work site and submit a copy of their payroll to the member for their files. Contractor must retain records for three years to allow the federal grantor agency access to these records, upon demand. Contractor also agrees to comply with the Arizona Executive Order 75-5, as amended by Executive Order 99-4.

When working on contracts funded with Federal Grant monies, contractor additionally agrees to comply with the administrative requirements for grants, and cooperative agreements to state, local and federally recognized Indian Tribal Governments.

AZ compliance with workforce requirements

Pursuant to ARS 41-4401, Contractor and subcontractor(s) warrant their compliance with all federal and state immigration laws and regulations that relate to their employees, and compliance with ARS 23-214 subsection A, which states, "... every employer, after hiring an employee, shall verify the employment eligibility of the employee through the E-Verify program"

CCOG reserves the right to cancel or suspend the use of any contract for violations of immigration laws and regulations. CCOG and its members reserve the right to inspect the papers of any contractor or subcontract employee who works under this contract to ensure compliance with the warranty above.

AZ Contractor Employee Work Eligibility

By entering into this contract, contractor agrees and warrants compliance with A.R.S. 41-4401, A.R.S. 23-214, the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act (FINA), and all other Federal immigration laws and regulations. CCOG and/or CCOG members may request verification of compliance from any contractor or sub-contractor performing work under this contract. CCOG and CCOG members reserve the right to confirm compliance. In the event that CCOG or CCOG members suspect or find that any contractor or subcontractor is not in compliance, CCOG may pursue any and all remedies allowed by law, including but not limited to suspension of work, termination of contract, suspension and/or debarment of the contractor. All cost associated with any legal action will be the responsibility of the contractor.

AZ Non-Compliance

All federally assisted contracts to members that exceed \$10,000.00 may be terminated by the federal grantee for noncompliance by contractor. In projects that are not federally funded, Respondent must agree to meet any federal, state or local requirements as necessary. In addition, if compliance with the federal regulations increases the contract costs beyond the agreed upon costs in this solicitation, the additional costs may only apply to the portion of the work paid by the federal grantee.

Registered Sex Offender Restrictions (Arizona)

For work to be performed at an Arizona school, contractor agrees that no employee or employee of a subcontractor who has been adjudicated to be a registered sex offender will perform work at any time when students are present, or reasonably expected to be present. Contractor agrees that a violation of this condition shall be considered a material breach and may result in the cancellation of the purchase order at the CCOG member's discretion. Contractor must identify

any additional costs associated with compliance to this term. If no costs are specified, compliance with this term will be provided at no additional charge.

Offshore Performance of Work Prohibited

Due to security and identity protection concerns, direct services under this contract shall be performed within the borders of the United States.

Terrorism Country Divestments: In accordance with A.R.S. 35-392, CCOG and CCOG members are prohibited from purchasing from a company that is in violation of the Export Administration Act. By entering into the contract, contractor warrants compliance with the Export Administration Act.

The undersigned hereby accepts and agrees to comply with all statutory compliance and notice requirements listed in this document.

Does Bidder agree? JS

(Initials of Authorized Representative)

Date: 6/12/2022

PROPOSAL FORM 17: NEW JERSEY REQUIREMENTS

Please answer the following question. If yes, please complete Proposal Form 15.

Does the awarded supplier intend to make their products and services available to public agencies in the State of New Jersey?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

In the event the Awarded Suppliers desires to pursue public sector opportunities in the State of New Jersey, it is important to understand the requirements for working with those public agencies. The documentation and information contain in this proposal form are intended to provide the respondent with documentation that would need to be completed so that the public agency is in compliance with local requirements for products and services through a cooperative contract.

New Jersey vendors are also required to comply with the following New Jersey statutes when applicable:

- All anti-discrimination laws, including those contained in N.J.S.A. 10:2-1 through N.J.S.A. 10:2-14, N.J.S.A. 10:5-1, and N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 through 10:5-38.
- Compliance with Prevailing Wage Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.26, for all contracts within the contemplation of the Act.
- Compliance with Public Works Contractor Registration Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.26
- Bid and Performance Security, as required by the applicable municipal or state statutes.

A. Ownership Disclosure Form (N.J.S. 52:25-24.2)

Pursuant to the requirements of P.L. 1999, Chapter 440 effective April 17, 2000 (Local Public Contracts Law), the Respondent shall complete the form attached to these specifications listing the persons owning 10 percent (10%) or more of the firm presenting the proposal.

Company Name: _____
 Street: _____
 City, State, Zip Code: Click or tap here to enter text.

Complete as appropriate:

I, Click or tap here to enter text., certify that I am the sole owner of Click or tap here to enter text., that there are no partners and the business is not incorporated, and the provisions of N.J.S. 52:25-24.2 do not apply.

OR:
 I, Click or tap here to enter text., a partner in Click or tap here to enter text., do hereby certify that the following is a list of all individual partners who own a 10% or greater interest therein. I further certify that if one (1) or more of the partners is itself a corporation or partnership, there is also set forth the names and addresses of the stockholders holding 10% or more of that corporation's stock or the individual partners owning 10% or greater interest in that partnership.

OR:
 I, Click or tap here to enter text., an authorized representative Click or tap here to enter text., a corporation, do hereby certify that the following is a list of the names and addresses of all stockholders in the corporation who own 10% or more of its stock of any class. I further certify that if one (1) or more of such stockholders is itself a corporation or partnership, that there is also set forth the names and addresses of the stockholders holding 10% or more of the corporation's stock or the individual partners owning a 10% or greater interest in that partnership.

(Note: If there are no partners or stockholders owning 10% or more interest, indicate none.)

Name	Address	Interest
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I further certify that the statements and information contained herein, are complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: 
Date: 6/12/2022

PROPOSAL FORM 18: GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS ACCEPTANCE FORM

Check one of the following responses to the General Terms and Conditions in this solicitation, including the Master Agreement:

- We take no exceptions/deviations to the general terms and conditions

(Note: If none are listed below, it is understood that no exceptions/deviations are taken.)

- We take the following exceptions/deviations to the general terms and conditions. All exceptions/deviations must be clearly explained. Reference the corresponding general terms and conditions that you are taking exceptions/deviations to. Clearly state if you are adding additions terms and conditions to the general terms and conditions. Provide details on your exceptions/deviations below:

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

(Note: Unacceptable exceptions shall remove your proposal from consideration for award. CCOG shall be the sole judge on the acceptance of exceptions/deviations and the decision shall be final.)

Terms and Conditions of the Master Agreement - Section 2

Section 2.4 – Term

- Insert the following as Section 2.4(a):
- **“Price Changes or Modifications.** Should it become necessary or proper during the Term of this Agreement to make any change in design or any alterations that will increase expense, Equalis Group must be notified immediately. Price increases must be approved by CCOG and no payment for additional materials or services, beyond the amount stipulated in the Agreement, shall be paid without prior approval. All price increases must be supported by manufacturer documentation, or a formal cost justification letter.”

Section 2.7 Add the following in a new paragraph at the end of the section:

- Equalis Group shall protect, indemnify, and hold harmless Winning Supplier and its administrators, employees and agents against all claims, damages, losses and expenses arising out of or resulting from the actions of Equalis Group, Equalis Group employees or subcontractors in the preparation of the solicitation and the later execution of the contract, including any supplemental agreements with Members.

Section 2.12 Add the following to the end of the section:

- This right does not include access to any of Winning Supplier’s documentation pertaining to base cost or which could be used to determine any of its subcontractor's base costs

PROPOSAL FORM 19: EQUALIS GROUP ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT DECLARATION

Attachment A - Sample Administration Agreement of this solicitation is for reference only. Contracting with Equalis Group and the Winning Supplier will occur after contract award.

Execution of the Administration Agreement is required for the Master Agreement to be administered by Equalis Group. **Attachment A - Sample Administration Agreement** defines i) the roles and responsibilities of both parties relating to marketing and selling the Program to current and prospective Members, and ii) the financial terms between Equalis Group and Winning Supplier.

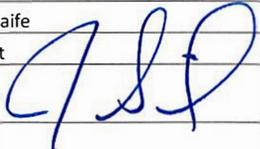
Redlined copies of this agreement should not be submitted with the response. Should a respondent be recommended for award, this agreement will be negotiated and executed between Equalis Group and the respondent. Respondents must select one of the following options for submitting their response.

- Bidder agrees to all terms and conditions outlined in the **Attachment A - Sample Administration Agreement**.
- Bidder wishes to negotiate directly with Equalis Group on terms and conditions outlined in the Sample Administration Agreement. Negotiations will commence after CCOG has completed contract award.

PROPOSAL FORM 20: MASTER AGREEMENT SIGNATURE FORM

BIDDERS MUST SUBMIT THIS FORM COMPLETED AND SIGNED WITH THEIR RESPONSE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR AWARD.

The undersigned hereby proposes and agrees to furnish Products & Services in strict compliance with the terms, specifications, and conditions contained within this RFP and the Master Agreement at the prices proposed within the submitted proposal unless noted in writing. The undersigned further certifies that he/she is an officer of the company and has authority to negotiate and bind the company named below and has not prepared this proposal in collusion with any other Bidder and that the contents of this proposal as to prices, terms or conditions of said proposal have not been communicated by the undersigned nor by any employee or agent to any person engaged in this type of business prior to the official opening of this proposal.

Company Name Cotton Commercial USA, Inc
Address 5443 Katy Hockley Cut Off Rd
City/State/Zip Katy TX 77493
Phone Number 877-511-2962
Email Address james@cottonteam.com
Printed Name James Scaife
Job Title President
Authorized Signature 

Initial Term of the Master Agreement

Contract Effective Date: September 1, 2022
Contract Expiration Date: August 31, 2026
Contract Number: COG-2134A

(Note: Contract Number will be applied prior to CCOG and Equalis Group countersigning.)

The Cooperative Council of Governments, Inc.
6001 Cochran Road, Suite 333
Cleveland, Ohio 44139

Equalis Group, LLC.
5550 Granite Parkway, Suite 298
Plano, Texas 75024

By: 
Scott A. Morgan (Aug 8, 2022 16:04 EDT)
Name: Scott A. Morgan
As: CCOG Board President
Date: Aug 8, 2022

By: 
Name: Eric Merkle
As: SVP, Procurement & Operations
Date: Aug 8, 2022

Agreement - Cotton & Equalis (Master) - 2022.09.01

Final Audit Report

2022-08-08

Created:	2022-08-08
By:	David Robbins (drobbins@equalisgroup.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAD7TnM11EYj4La9Vf3OwmcYtvS_i5zpY0

"Agreement - Cotton & Equalis (Master) - 2022.09.01" History

-  Document created by David Robbins (drobbins@equalisgroup.org)
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-  Agreement completed.
2022-08-08 - 8:04:08 PM GMT